(b) Seismic surveys measuring about 3, 800 std. line kms., have been carried out. A programme to drill 8 exploratory wells at a cost of Rs. 12. 20 crores has been approved. The drilling has started in February, 87,

(c) The areas are:

Assam; Gujarat; Rajasthan; Tripura; West Bengal; Andhra; Himachal Pradesh Bihar; Orissa; Arunachal Pradesh; Tamil Nadu; Mizoram anad Nagal'and.

Demand of petrol and petroleum products During 1986-87

662. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the demand of. petrol and petoleum products in the country during the year 1986-87;

(b) what was the estimated production of petrol and petroleum products in the country during the same period; and

(c) the steps taken to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT). (a) and (b) The estimated demand for petroleum (MS) and other petroleum products and their indigenous availbility during 1986-87 are as under: —

(*Million tonnes*)

	Demand	Indigenous availability
Petrol (MS)	2.50	2.55
Other petroleum products	41.10	40.41

(c) The shortage is being met by imports.

Increasing the production of Petroleum, products during 1987-88

663. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quantum of import of crude and petroleum products is likely to increase in 1987-88 as compared to the year 1986-87;

(b) to what extent the demand is likely to be met by indigenous production and by imports of crude oil and what is the amount of foreign exchange required for these imports during 1987-88; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken by Government to increase indigenous production to minimise the import bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) (a) Yes. Sir.

(M The crude import Plan for 1987-88 has not yet been finalised and therefore it is not possible to indicate at this stage the size of the import bill during the year.

(c) Some of the steps taken to increase the production of crude oil in the country include intensification of exploration, use °f enhanced recovery techniques and induction of advanced technology.

Exploring Hydrocarbons ia the Konkan-Kerala off shore

664. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased *to* state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural gas Commission (ONGC) has proposed to